

BOOK NOTICE

Near Horizons, The Story of an Insect Garden. Illustrated with more than 160 Photographs by the Author. By Edwin Way Teale. Dodd, Mead & Company, New York, 1942. $9\frac{3}{4} \times 7$ inches. XVII + 319 p. illus. \$3.75.

When Edwin Way Teale stretches out on his ventral surface on the warm sands of Long Island and watches the every-day activities of an ant-lion, poetry and adventure are in the making. In an insect sanctuary of his own making, fifteen minutes from his home, over a period of six years, Mr. Teale at various and numerous times has entered an "insect world," and watched, recorded and photographed the incredible and fantastic doings of its inhabitants.

His adventures, which are now in print under the title "Near Horizons" make fascinating reading and his remarkable photographic illustrations are perfect. Mr. Teale does not achieve his result by endowing insects with human attributes, but by accurate observations, basic scientific knowledge, and a discriminating sense for using words that enable the reader to share his interest and enthusiasm.

Froghoppers, butterfly battles, the insect horizon, insect sleep, rat-tailed maggots, may-flies, ant-lions, wasps, caterpillars, bees, butterflies, lacewings, crane flies, water-striders, katydids and mantids are only a few of the insects, that performed in Mr. Teale's "garden," and whose activities are set forth interspersed with historical viewpoints, allied happenings, and bits of the author's philosophy. Each chapter is an essay in itself, involving the liveliness of different species as related to a central theme.

Entomologists in particular will be pleased to find a whole chapter under the title "Cicada Man," devoted to William T. Davis, and an excellent photograph—both true to life—of a noted naturalist who is admired and respected by all who know him.

Mr. Teale's abilities as a naturalist and as an expert photographer are both evident in this, his latest book, which is worthy of a place in every entomologist's library.—H. B.W.